

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric composed of a laminated nonwoven fabric structure, wherein an extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer formed out of extremely fine fibers composed of a polyester resin material that is mixed with ~~[[1]]~~5 to 75% by weight ~~or more~~ of a polyolefin resin and having a fiber diameter of 5  $\mu\text{m}$  or less, and a filamentary fiber nonwoven fabric layer mainly containing a polyester resin and having a fiber diameter of 7  $\mu\text{m}$  or more are integrated by thermocompressive bonding, wherein a discontinuous phase, in a longitudinal direction, of the polyolefin resin is scattered in a surface of the extremely fine fibers forming the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric and the laminated structure has a water pressure resistance of ~~[[2]]~~5.2kPa or more.

2. (Original) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the laminated nonwoven fabric structure has a polyester resin content of 70% by weight or more.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously presented) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the filamentary fibers forming the filamentary fiber nonwoven fabric are composed of a polyester resin containing 7% by weight or less of a polyolefin resin.

5. (Previously presented) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the basis of weight of the laminated

structure is 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> or more, the basis of weight of the filamentary fiber nonwoven fabric layer is 8 g/m<sup>2</sup> or more, the basis of weight of the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer is 2 g/m<sup>2</sup> or more, and the laminated structure has a tensile tenacity of 13 N/3 cm or more.

6. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the basis of weight of the filamentary fiber nonwoven fabric layer is 20 g/m<sup>2</sup> or more, the basis of weight of the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer is 6 g/m<sup>2</sup> or more, the basis of weight of the nonwoven fabric laminated structure is 40 g/m<sup>2</sup> or more, and the nonwoven fabric laminated structure has a tensile tenacity of 60 N/3 cm or more ~~and a water pressure resistance of 3 kPa or more.~~

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric ~~is formed out of extremely fine fibers composed of a polyester resin material that~~ contains from 10 to 50% by weight of ~~[[a]]~~ the polyolefin resin.

9. (Previously presented) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the extremely fine fibers forming the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric is formed out of a polyester resin having a solution viscosity from 0.2 to 0.8  $\eta_{sp}/C$ .

10. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim ~~[[1]]~~9, wherein the ~~extremely fine fibers forming the~~

~~extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric is formed out of a polyester resin having~~ has a solution viscosity of from 0.2 to 0.6  $\eta_{sp}/C$ .

11. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the polyolefin resin ~~to be contained in~~ mixed with the polyester resin material forming the extremely fine fibers has a MFR (melt flow rate), which is determined under a temperature of 230°C and a load of 21.8N in accordance with the JIS K 7210, of 20 g/10 min or more.

12. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim ~~[[1]]~~11, wherein the polyolefin resin ~~to be contained in the polyester resin forming the extremely fine fibers~~ has a MFR of 100 g/10 min or more.

13. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim ~~[[1]]~~12, wherein the polyolefin resin ~~to be contained in the polyester resin forming the extremely fine fibers~~ has a MFR of 500 g/10 min or more.

14. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the polyolefin resin ~~to be contained in~~ mixed with the polyester resin material forming the extremely fine fibers is a polypropylene or a polyethylene.

15. (Previously presented) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer shows a starting level of wetting and impregnating of 50 mN/m or less when a

reagent having a surface tension different from the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer is dropped thereon.

16. (Currently amended) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 1, wherein the ~~nonwoven fabric is formed out of an~~ extremely fine fibers of the extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer ~~composed of~~ ~~extremely fine fibers that~~ are obtained by extruding a polyester resin containing a polyolefin resin and melt blowing the extruded resin.

17. (Original) The highly water pressure-resistant polyester nonwoven fabric according to claim 16, wherein the polyester nonwoven fabric is composed of a laminated structure formed by integrating, through thermocompressive bonding, a stacked structure that is formed by successively stacking at least one filamentary fiber nonwoven fabric layer spun and deposited on a conveyor net, at least one extremely fine fiber nonwoven fabric layer to be deposited on the same conveyor net and at least one filamentary fiber nonwoven fabric layer spun and deposited thereon.